

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY BULGARIA

SUBJECT COMMUNIZATION OF BELGARIA

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INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Although the nature of foreign broadcast material does not lend itself to conclusive or complete answers to specific questions regarding the Communization of Bulgaria, it does provide partial information about certain phases of the subject: (A) the opposition in Bulgaria; (B) economic collectivization; (C) economic federation with neighboring countries; (D) imports from the Soviet Union; and (E) minority and religious policies. In monitored broadcasts of the period indicated, few references are made to Soviet troops in Bulgaria or to the Bulgarian Army itself.

A. THE OPPOSITION IN BULGARIA:

References to resistance to the Fatherland Front regime appeared frequently throughout March, April, and May in Radio Sofia broadcast reports of Saboteur sessions, official denials of "rumors" intended to "sabotage" the Two-Year Economic Plan, and warnings to the opposition voiced by Dimitrov and other cabinet members. Although broadcast material does not show the extent of this resistance, responsibility was subsequently placed on Nikola Petkov's group within the National Agrarian Union.

The trial of Reservist General Popov, in which evidence implicating Petkov in a "conspiracy" to overthrow the Government was revealed, was a forerunner to the arrest of Petkov on 5 June, following which the Agrarian Union issued a dramatic appeal for unity within its ranks, calling upon its members to "throw out" the conspirators. By the end of June, monitored references to organized resistance from within the Agrarian Union disappeared from Radio Sofia broadcasts. On 30 June, Vice Premier Kostov emphasized the "strengthening of the Fatherland Front's regime."

During July, the only allusion to the existence of continued opposition appeared in the broadcast of Dimitrov's warning on 10 July that "inveterate oppositionists" would be punished. TAFWUG reported on 12 July that an indictment had been submitted against Filipov and Slavkov, who allegedly conspired with Petkov for an "armed struggle against the Fatherland Front" and on 23 July, the indictment against Petkov and others of his group was broadcast by Radio Sofia.

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B. ECONOMIC COLLECTIVIZATION OF BULGARIA:

The extent to which the Government has assumed control of the Bulgarian economy is indicated, in general terms, by broadcasts of various Government Directives and announcements of new programs to be effected. Although it is insisted that "private property and private initiative remain the most important economic factor," and private property "is protected" in the new constitution, Radio Sofia broadcasts document a trend toward increased Government ownership and control. During March, for example, the currency reform was completed and a special levy on private property was approved. In April, the Government "reorganized foreign commerce", forming a State monopoly of the principal exports, and assumed direction over private, as well as public industry, in implementation of the Two-Year Plan. In May, a Moscow broadcast revealed that "80 percent of the banking capital" was "in the hands" of the Bulgarian State.

The success of Bulgaria's economic program cannot be adequately determined on the basis of broadcast material. Broadcasts of official statements, however, took cognizance of opposition to currency reform; and the recent decision to collect surplus grain is reported to have "caused a great stir" among the people and an intensive propaganda campaign was deemed "necessary" by the Fatherland Front to popularize the program.

C. ECONOMIC FEDERATION WITH NEIGHBORING STATES:

Plans for a Balkan Federation are vehemently denied in Radio Sofia broadcasts, while, on the other hand, both Tito and Dimitrov are reported to stress the "need for unity" and "alliance." The recently concluded Bulgar-Yugoslav "treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance" is hailed as exemplifying a "new spirit in the Balkans" and it is asserted again that "no blocs, similar to that which reaction is trying to form in the west, were created." The Bucharest radio quotes press reports to the effect that "the insoluble Macedonian question has (now) found its solution between Belgrade and Sofia. There is not even the slightest shadow of rivalry." TAMEUG broadcasts a Bulgarian Telegraph Agency denial of "tendentious reports abroad on an alleged statement by the Bulgarian Premier Georgi Dimitrov on the unification of three parts of Macedonia within the Yugoslav frontiers...."

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Bulgarian participation in agreements with other Soviet-influenced countries have been frequently noted in broadcasts emanating from the Balkans. On 26 May, Rumania and Bulgaria signed a cultural pact which occasioned enthusiastic speeches and on 13 July Premier Gheza hailed Bulgar-Rumanian ties during his visit to the Bulgarian capital. On 23 July, a Hungarian-Bulgar pact was concluded. On 10 July, a Bulgar-Albanian committee "to strengthen cultural and economic relations" was formed. On 12 July, a trade pact between Bulgaria and Finland was signed. On 16 July, a Polish delegation arrived in Sofia to negotiate a trade agreement.

Few details of these various trade and cultural pacts are included in broadcast material; no over-all trade figures are given, nor the allotment of specific materials mentioned in exchange agreements.

D. IMPORTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION:

Four monitored broadcast references to imports from the Soviet Union appeared during the period examined. No over-all figures are given. Broadcasts indicate that imports from the Soviet Union include the following: cotton, wool, cellulose, cereals, trucks, tractors, cast iron, medical supplies, and newsprint.

E. MINORITY AND RELIGIOUS POLICIES:

The few broadcasts related to this subject report the Gypsy population's "deep gratitude for the Dimitrov Government's care for all minorities, including the Gypsy" and predict clerical support for cooperation between Church and State.

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APPENDIX

A. THE OPPOSITION IN BULGARIA

(Excerpt) "Prof. Ivan Stefanov, Minister of Finance, in a statement to the press on the nature of the draft State budget, said, inter alia: 'The leaders and the speakers of the Opposition...led by Khristo Stoyanov himself, are trying by all means to put the imposition of taxes on peasants possessing more land and livestock in a completely wrong light. They do not feel embarrassed when spreading the lie that the amount of the taxes is equal to the sums imposed on every decar of land and livestock as calculated by the first commissions.... Some of them are even lying to the population that the State will take away their land and livestock.... The Opposition is complaining that legislation in Bulgaria is carried out with lightning speed and that the draft bills are not sufficiently discussed....'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 6 MARCH 1947)

(Excerpt) "For unknown reasons, the representatives of the Opposition who attended the meeting (of the Parliamentary Commission entrusted with drafting the Constitution)...abstained purposely from taking part in the discussions. They had taken an active part in the work of the different sections and made several proposals." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 6 MARCH 1947)

(Excerpt) "In connection with the exchange of currency ordered by the Government, Finance Minister Stefanov stated: 'All those spreading the fallacy that through the exchange, the economic life of the country will be hindered, will be once more unmasked as conscious deceivers.... Baseless are also the efforts to create alarm among the students by saying that they cannot be properly supported because of lack of money by the family.... The Bulgarian National Bank announces that...the rumor that the time limit for exchange of bank notes or bonds should be extended, is not at all true. The rumors saying that citizens who are exchanging large sums will be punished are also untrue and obviously tendentious....'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 10 MARCH 1947)

(Text) "At today's meeting of the Constituent National Assembly, a question about the 10-day suspension of the papers NARODNO-ZEMELSKO ZHIVIE and SVODOPENI NAROD was put forward by the Deputies Nikola Petkov and Kosta Lulchev. The Minister of Information and Arts Dino Kazasov was called upon to speak and answered the question, repeatedly interrupted by the opposition. After this Nikola Petkov was asked by the Deputy Speaker, Dr. Kosturkov, whether he was satisfied with the reply and, instead of answering yes or no, he began to make a speech. When reminded that he was not allowed to do so, Nikola Petkov continued his speech and was supported by shouts from the opposition. A deputy of the majority then moved a proposal demanding the exclusion of Nikola Petkov from the Assembly for three meetings. This was adopted by the majority.... Nikola Petkov left the Assembly followed by all Deputies of the Opposition. The Assembly then resumed work in a calm atmosphere." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 12 MARCH 1947)

(Text) "In view of the publication of certain articles containing untrue assertions and designed to discredit State institutions, the Ministry of Information suspended for 10 days the newspaper NARODNO-ZEMELSKO ZHIVIE published by the Agrarian Opposition group, led by Petkov. At today's meeting of the Constituent Assembly Petkov raised the matter. Although the Minister responsible was absent, the Opposition insisted on the subject, thus infringing upon the standing rules of the house. This led to the expulsion of the Opposition Deputies for one sitting. The Opposition Deputies refused to leave the hall, and thus provoked fresh disorder, so that in the end they were expelled for 3 sittings." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH MORSE TO EUROPE, 13 MARCH 1947)

(Excerpt) "The Ministerial Council has decided to ban from 14 March to 23 March inclusively the paper SVODOPENI NAROD, organ of the United Workers' Social Democratic Party, for tendentious articles aiming at compromising the exchange of banknotes and treasury bonds and at defaming people's honor and State's prestige in the eyes of the world." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE 16 MARCH 1947)

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(Excerpt) "In a speech in Sobranie apropos of the draft budget of the Interior Ministry, Minister Yugov declared that a reduction of expenditures and personnel is proof that the internal situation in the country is sound, that complete order reigns throughout the country, and that the people have devoted themselves to peaceful and creative work despite ceaseless attempts of enemies to cause disturbances or create distrust among the Bulgarian people. Yugov added: 'Watchfulness of the Bulgarian People's Militia has spared the Bulgarian people many losses which the agents of the black market might have inflicted on it. During 1946, 433 million leva in gold, foreign currency and various goods were confiscated in the fight against the black market....' (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 3 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "The Council of Ministers decided to suspend SVOROVEN MAROD for one month beginning 29 April, as it was attempting to create panic about the food situation and the future harvest. The newspaper will be prosecuted as it is not a first offense. If this warning is not heeded the paper will be permanently suspended. Today's issue of Nikola Petkov's Opposition paper HORODNO ZETEDLSKO ZHANE published a provocative article by Stefan Dimitrov entitled: 'Who are the Traitors?' News vendors have been offended by this slanderous article and refuse the further sale of the paper. Their union has been asked to order the printers to stop the printing of the paper because of its antinational and anti-Fatherland Front tendencies." (BELGRADE, PANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH HOME TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 30 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "The Bulgarian Government has addressed the following May Day manifesto to the Bulgarian people.... The people welcomed with great satisfaction the fact that more and more thousands of people who voted in the elections for the Opposition are now beginning to cooperate with the Fatherland Front and are increasingly, actively...in the common effort for the realization of the Two-Year Plan. But it is also indignantly observed how certain circles are striving by all means to discredit the economic plan and to sabotage it...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 30 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "Sofia--The sudden death is announced of Liubomir Kolarov, former Minister of Justice in the Cabinet of Kimon Georgiev, and prominent member of the Bulgarian Agrarian Union, which he represented in the Constituent Assembly." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH HOME TO EUROPE, 1 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Today's Sobranie session was opened by Vice President Kamenov, who announced that a written reply of Premier Dimitrov had been submitted to the interpellation of representative Petkov in connection with the suspension of the newspaper HORODNO ZETEDLSKO ZHANE. Petkov declared that he refused to hear the Premier's reply and insulted and slandered him. On the proposal of the Sobranie President, Nikola Petkov was expelled from this session. All Opposition representatives left with him. Then Kamenov read the Premier's reply: '...First--The Ministerial Council has not taken recently any decision for the suspension of the newspaper HORODNO ZETEDLSKO ZHANE. Second--The paper is not being printed as consequence of a private conflict between the paper's administration and the printing press and the organization for the paper's distribution. Third--The paper's administration does not pay much attention to the settlement of this conflict, in order to compromise the Bulgarian Government abroad....' (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 13 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) Sobranie session) "Vice Chairman Toncho Kosturkov announced that a proposal had been submitted by Opposition representative Peter Doshinov to amend Article 20 so that pensions of farmers should be increased to 1,500 leva monthly; that is, 18,000 leva yearly. Doshinov then developed his proposal by citing fantastic figures regarding funds from which sums can be drawn.... He tried to use demagoguery regarding pensions of Bulgarian peasants.... Finance Minister Stefanov, dwelling on the proposal of Peter Doshinov rejected with sound arguments the false information which this Opposition member had used and pointed out the 3 milliard leva are provided for farmers' pensions and two and one-half milliard

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for those who have done the necessary period of service.... Minister Stefanov emphasized: 'Bulgarian peasants know very well what lies within the power of the State budget and what does not.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 16 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "This morning at 8:30 a.m. the Sofia regional court--Justice Hayden Rachev and Prosecutor Petrinsky--began examination of the case against the founder and organizer of the antipopular conspirative organization 'Neutral Officer,' retired Gen. Ivan Konstantinov Popov. The accused made a full and extremely interesting confession. (Follows details of the case in which Petkov is implicated in the "conspiracy" plot.) "Concluding his confession, the accused implored for the court's leniency and declared that the Opposition is solely responsible for their antipopular plot and that the Opposition was the real instigator of the 'Neutral Officer' organization. Today at 6 p.m. the questioning was concluded. Verdict will be pronounced tomorrow at 11:00 a.m." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 19 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Verdict was pronounced this morning. Reservist General Popov is sentenced to 15 years severe imprisonment and deprivation of civil and political rights for 20 years." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 20 MAY, 1947)

(Excerpt) "Premier Dimitrov spoke at the Congress of the Printing and Paper Industry Workers: 'The central nation-wide task facing us...is the realization of the State Economic Plan. Immense importance of this plan...is proved clearly by the fact that all our internal and external enemies attack it and try by all means to sabotage the plan at its birth.... Our people, the Fatherland Front and its Government will not permit hindering of the economic development of our country, wherever this hindrance is coming from....'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 20 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Dimitrov pointed out that 'everyone in the country must understand that all hopes for intervention, for change in the near or distant future, are vain illusions. Whoever harbors such illusions will meet with bitter disappointment. Whoever tries to prepare conspiracies and coups d'etat with outside help will burn his fingers....'" (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 20 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Premier Dimitrov gave the following answers to questions put to him by Mr. John Fisher, DAILY MAIL special correspondent: ...'The speeches of the President (Truman) are temporarily encouraging the antidemocratic circles and remnants of the former fascist regime.... No responsible Government could stand the provocations toward disobedience of the laws, toward sabotaging of the undertakings of the State, toward securing the feeding of the population and the restoration of the people's economy destroyed by the war. The Government will not hesitate in the future to apply more the laws of the People's Republic against those of the Opposition who in their anger and blindness are purposely inciting against the undertakings of the Government and especially against the realization of the Two-Year State Economic Plan....'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 2 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpt) "Today's Supreme National Sobranie session.... The debate on the draft Constitution...continued. The representative of the Communist party, Petko Kunin, (emphasized) the protection which the draft Constitution affords private property and underlined that capitalist private property is not and cannot be absolutely inviolable. He also stressed that a different attitude of the State toward labor, private property, and capitalist private property is clearly underlined in the Constitution...."

"The next speaker was the Opposition representative, Petko Stoyanov. The demagoguery of Stoyanov reached a climax when he commented on the draft Constitution.... He declared it had considerably deteriorated owing to amendments introduced into the original draft as presented by the National Committee of the Fatherland Front. He declared that the question of property and its guarantees is not clearly settled by the draft Constitution. ... About the question of Ministerial responsibility, he said that the provisions of the draft were quite insufficient, although the draft provides the peoples' court for Ministers. This he called purely 'political responsibility, which had also existed in the past. He declared the Ministers should be held responsible under the penal code, also for crimes committed by them...."

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Professor Stoyanov mentioned that the proposition draft contained provisions for establishment of a special court for checking the unconstitutionality of... laws. He omitted to say... that not a single democratic country has succeeded in incorporating such a body in its Constitution. Speaking of labor rights, Stoyanov said that this question was built on unconstitutional principles in the Government draft...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 4 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpt) "Today the Grand National Assembly before starting the debate on the agenda heard President Kolarov announce that a letter has been received from the Public Prosecutor of Sofia Regional Court, demanding permission from the Grand National Assembly to arrest and bring to trial the people's representative Nikola Petkov.... Because of the importance of this affair, the commission started its session immediately. The commission decided that Nikola Petkov should be deprived of his mandate as people's representative, that he should be arrested and tried...." Nikola Petkov was detained by the people's authorities after the National Assembly's session had concluded." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 5 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpt) "Today's newspapers print a number of letters from former followers of Nikola Petkov in which they declare that they refuse to have anything more to do with the antinational traitorous activity of the Opposition leader. They condemn his antinational activity and denounce his dishonest acts." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 7 JUNE 1947)

(Bulgarian National Agrarian Union's Appeal to the Bulgarian People)

(Excerpt) "Comrades... realization of the Two-Year Economic Plan requires the entire Nation's efforts.... The people's enemies, partisans of restoration of political and economic serfdom... are making every effort to create disturbances in the great organization of Bulgarian peasants and within the ranks of the working people's militant union, the Fatherland Front. The Bulgarian peasants' organization has been repeatedly a target of intrigues.... United Agrarians! Cooperation must be further strengthened and all conspirators thrown out of our ranks. You must make every effort and win back all those who through various delusions have deviated from our right path which will lead us to salvation! Show them where Nikola Petkov and his clique, those agents and allies of the enemies of our people, would have led them to.... Comrades! Our people face a sole path. Along this path we shall march. We shall march under the glowing banners of the Fatherland Front.... Long live Bulgarian National Agrarian Union! Long live the Fatherland Front!" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 9 JUNE 1947)

(Text) "Sofia—During today's meeting of the Constituent Assembly, President Kolarov announced that the prosecution of the regional court of Sofia had handed over to the executive committee of the Constituent Assembly a file containing the resignations of 23 Deputies of Petkov's opposition group which were found during a search of Petkov's home. The above mentioned deputies include Atanasov, Asen Stanbolivsky, Asen Davlov, Nedko Potov, Dimitr Stoyanov, and others.... The so-called independent intellectual, Petko Stoyanov, also handed his resignation to Petkov...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH HOME TO EUROPE, 10 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpt—Report of Sobranie Session) "The reporter of the electoral control commission and Plovdiv Deputy George Kostov, member of the Communist Party, explained the commission's opinion about the question raised by the Sobranie Bureau concerning resignation letters of 23 Deputies of the Petkov Opposition group, discovered among Petkov's personal property.... Kostov declared that the commission urges that the 23 Deputies in question be deprived of their mandates and be replaced by Opposition Deputies next on the list. Legal reasons and justification for such decision of the Sobranie is that these Deputies have misused the people's conscience and that having thus lost their dignity as people's representatives, they cannot regain these qualifications...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 11 JUNE 1947)

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(Text) "The Bulgarian Agency has been authorized to deny categorically a report which originated in London and was reproduced by the NEW YORK TIMES to the effect that a number of Opposition Deputies had been arrested. The Bulgarian Agency states that since the arrest of the Opposition Agrarian leader, Nikola Petkov, all other Opposition Deputies have enjoyed complete freedom and are taking part in the work of the Constituent Assembly." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH MORSE TO EUROPE, 11 JUNE 1947)

(Text) "Sofia—The Regional Court at Sofia has sentenced Peter Koev, a leading member of Nikola Petkov's group and an instigator of the illegal Neutral Officer Organization, which intended to carry out a coup d'etat, to 12 and one-half years imprisonment and loss of civic rights for 15 years." (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 14 JUNE 1947)

(Text) Sofia—The Grand National Sobranie at its afternoon session...accepted the draft Constitution in principle. Of 404 MPs, 366 were present, of whom 292 voted for the Constitution, while 74 Opposition MPs abstained from voting." (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 20 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpts) "Vice Premier and Minister Without Portfolio Traytcho Kostov, at present in Warsaw...talked to a press conference.... Answering questions about Bulgaria's internal situation, he stressed the strengthening of the Fatherland Front's regime, emphasizing that this did not exclude opposition on condition that it should be exercised within the framework of existing laws and not be directed against basic Bulgarian national interests...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, 30 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpts from an interview between Dimitrov and Eric Sounton, DAILY TELEGRAPH special correspondent) "To the question whether there is any interference in the internal affairs of Bulgaria, on the part of Britain and the United States, Dimitrov answered in the affirmative, saying: 'Among the numerous instances of interference is the fact that a certain Agrarian Committee among whose members are the Hungarian Nagy, the Yugoslav Machek...Gavrilovich, as well as the former Agrarian MP, Dimitrov-Ganeto, sentenced for treason, has been formed in the United States.... He pointed out that the Bulgarian Opposition has been disavowed by the Bulgarian people, but he said: 'There are some inveterate oppositionists who continue their destructive activities, going so far as preparing acts of terrorism. They will pay for their deeds before the laws of the Bulgarian Republic....' (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH MORSE TO EUROPE, 10 JULY 1947)

(Text) "Sofia—The public prosecutor of the Sofia regional court has submitted an indictment against the group of conspirators headed by Todor Filipov and Slavkov who, prompted by the reactionary Opposition leader Nikola Petkov, carried out preparations for an armed struggle against the Fatherland Front authorities. After a talk with Nikola Petkov, they founded a shock group which was supplied with arms by their supporters in the Bulgarian Opposition. This armed group was to concentrate on 21 July this year in the forests of the Balkan mountains and begin terrorist operations. However, Filipov and Slavkov were surrounded at the meeting place by the peoples' militia. They confessed to having carried out preparations for terrorist activity." (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 12 JULY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Sofia—The National Committee of the Fatherland Front will take cognizance of the negotiations which are now under way between the Communist Party and the Agrarian Opposition Party for the purpose of coming to an agreement, and makes known some of the conditions which it considers as a necessary prelude for any understanding. The Agrarian Opposition Party will particularly have to publicly disown its former secretary, Dr. G. M. Dimitrov, now in the United States, and condemn the leaders of the conspiracy against the State; that is to say, Nikola Petkov, Petr Koev, Rangel Tascakov, and so forth. Furthermore, it will have to dismiss those leaders who wish to continue to carry on the policy followed up to now by the Party, and put an end to the campaign carried on by the Agrarian Opposition Party against the parties of the Fatherland Front." (PARIS, AFP IN FRENCH MORSE TO NORTH AMERICA 16 JULY 1947)

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(EXCERPTS FROM THE INDICTMENT OF NIKOLA PETKOV, COL. MARKO IVANOV, COL. BORIS GERGOV, MAJ. ATANAS ATANASOV, AND DIMITR PETKOV IVANOV, BROADCAST BY SOFIA, 28 JULY 1947.)

"Trials against the military Fascist organizations 'Czar Ivan,' 'Neutral Officer,' the internal Macedonian revolutionary organization, Ivan Likhailov, trials against Peter Kocov, the terrorist group in Svistov, and others, show that ... all reactionary forces in the country and Fascist remnants were united around the leading Opposition group, and together with it elaborated a coup d'etat... counting on support from abroad. ... Doctor Dimitrov as early as 1945, opened the doors of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union to Legionnaires, members of 'Ratnik.' Doctor Dimitrov, together with other traitors like Ferenc Nagy and the Yugoslav Fascist Doctor Jatchek, appeared as a participant in the so-called 'Committee of Peasant Parties,' whose aim is to unite all reactionary restoration forces in Bulgaria and other Balkan countries....

"During the spring of 1945, ... Doctor Dimitrov's successor became Nikola Petkov. Petkov and his adherents, calling themselves opposition within the framework of the Fatherland Front, are actually a hostile, antipopular group.... Petkov slanderously asserted that 'there is no difference whatsoever between the Peoples' actual democratic Government and the Fascist regime of Prof. Alexander Tsankov.' ... Petkov identified the actual popular democratic regime of Bulgaria with the monarcho-fascist regime of Greece.... He refused to advocate liquidation of the monarchy in Bulgaria under the pretext that 'the King is a minor'....

"Aiming to impose his will in the struggle against the peoples' legal authority, Petkov procured in advance from a number of deputies of the Supreme National Sobranie personally signed resignations which he would make effective any moment according to his personal judgment.... Petkov deprived the deputies of his group of independence and freedom of action within and outside Parliament.

"Petkov and his collaborators began in 1945 preparations for overthrowing the legally established peoples' authority by an armed plot, to be carried out after the Soviets evacuated Bulgaria. Petkov established relations with trustful people from the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union.... on an invented speech by ex-Secretary of State James Byrne, which he had actually never pronounced. Petkov and his collaborators laid their hopes on an armed conflict among the great powers....

"During the second half of 1945, Petkov passed to preparation of the coup d'etat. He established secret relations with Col. Marko Ivanov and Col. Boris Gergov entitled 'Military Alliance,' whose aim was to overthrow the Fatherland Front authority.... During the same period he contacted Gen. Ivan Popov, whom he persuaded to become chief of the military conspirative organization entitled 'Neutral Officer.' ... Through contacts with the Economic Secretary and member of the Permanent Council of Petkov's National Agrarian Union, Peter Kocov, Petkov was well informed about the activities of the conspirative organization.

"During the first half of 1947, Petkov, in a number of meetings, incited his close and active collaborator of the National Agrarian Union, former assistant administrative secretary of the Permanent Council, Dimitr Ivanov, to develop actually illegal activities... by preparing artificial internal disorder to prepare ground for interference of external forces and for foreign intervention. Ivanov has carried out subversive activities in Svistov District.

"Since August, 1945, Col. Marko Ivanov and Boris Gergov... came to the conclusion that it was necessary to establish the illegal officers organization which would support Nikola Petkov.... Marko Ivanov, through their common acquaintance Nayden Stefanov, met Nikola Petkov.... Petkov instructed him on the country's international and internal situation, coming to the conclusion that the Fatherland Front Government had to be overthrown.... At the next meeting, also attended by Col. Gergov, Petkov described again in hostile and slanderous spirit the Government's internal and foreign policy.... Col. Ivanov assured Petkov... that many officers had come to him to offer their help.... For the post of Staff Chief, Ivanov proposed Gen. Ivan Popov....

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"The conspirators decided to exploit the name of 'Military Alliance,' which is popular among Army and the people, for their criminal activity.... It had members in eleven garrisons in the larger towns of the country--Plovdiv, Plovdiv, Varna, Stara Zagora, and Shumen. In Sofia it had its people in the War Ministry, the Military Academy artillery school, and eight military units. Col. Ivanov personally enrolled in the conspiracy Maj. Ivan Kolev, Captains Vasil Koralchikov, Boris Valkov, Stefan Stoyanov, Boris Dobrev, George Savov, Dimitar (Preglev), and others. Major Atanas Atanasov and others enrolled by Marko Ivanov, recruited Majors George Stoinenov, Valko Yanatchikov, and Captains Ivan Vandshtukov, Marko Gergorov, and others.... Col. Gergorov withdrew from this illegal activity, whereafter Col. Lasov and Maj. Atanas Atanasov were drafted into leadership. They started recruiting new members.... Major Stoinenov drafted a plan for occupying the War Ministry and neutralizing military stations....

"During their third meeting with Petkov, Col. Marko Ivanov expressed the desire that HANODNO ZEMELSKO ZEMLE should print articles in which should be expressed the conspirators (information) about the Army's situation. Petkov complied and later on transformed the paper into a mouthpiece of the conspirators' 'Military Alliance'....

"After meeting with Petkov during August, 1945, Ivanov contacted retired Gen. Ivan Popov, leader of 'Neutral Officer' which was established later. Following a new meeting, Popov, his closest collaborators, Col. Boris Gergorov and Maj. Stanimirov, and others proceeded to the establishment of the illegal conspiracy organization 'Neutral Officer.' Nikola Petkov was interested in reports on the activities of the 'Neutral Officer.' From Peter Koev, the latter had regular meetings with active member of 'Neutral Officer,' Lt. Col. Stefan Avramov, and incited him towards secret subversive activity among the officers....

"Furthermore, it was established that the conspiracy for overthrowing the Peoples' Democratic authority was intended to be carried out after Soviet troops left the country, or with foreign interference."

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B. ECONOMIC COLLECTIVIZATION OF BULGARIA

(Excerpt) "The Ministerial Council has approved Order No. 21, issued on 6 March, by the Governing Council of the Bulgarian National Bank, for the withdrawal from circulation and exchange of banknotes of 200, 250, 500 and 1,000 and 5,000 levas, and of all State 3 percent Treasury Bonds between 10 and 16 March, 1947, inclusive." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 7 MARCH 1947)

(Text) "A bill providing for a special capital levy was approved by the Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers. This bill has been approved in principle by the Council of Ministers and will shortly be submitted to the Constituent National Assembly by the Minister of Finance. The counting date is to be 17 March. Bulgarian subjects and companies are liable to duty for their property in Bulgaria and abroad, whereas for foreign subjects and companies will have to pay only for their property in Bulgaria.

"Exempt from this tax are State and State autonomous institutions, enterprises and funds, schools, churches, monasteries, the Stock Exchange, the Chamber of National Culture, the Economic Chamber, the Chamber of Architects and Engineers, and so forth. Also Fatherland Front committees, all educational, cultural, charitable, sport, professional, and party organizations, Consular representatives, and schools; also farmers in the grain-producing districts with up to 30 decares of land; farmers whose property has a total value of less than 250,000 leva for a single man, 300,000 leva for a married couple, 350,000 leva for a family of three members and further 50,000 leva for any additional member; all small agricultural inventory, domestic animals, poultry, seeds, and so forth.

"All insurance and pensions; children's savings and deposits up to 100,000 leva for each child; 30 percent of all deposits and current accounts with banks, savings institutes, general union of agricultural cooperative societies, and the United Cooperative Kaped, which were opened before 6 March; furniture and household goods, jewelry, books, unless they are destined for trade; freedom-loan bonds; 30 percent of all other bonds at a rate fixed by the Ministry of Finance; labor cooperative farms and labor cooperative associations, and so forth.

"The assessment of buildings and building sites will be as follows: For all houses built up to 1939, 6 times the value; for houses built after 1940, 5 times; after 1941, 4 times; after 1942, 3 times; after 1943 and 1944, twice the value...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 26 MARCH 1947)

(Excerpt) "The campaign for recruiting 50,000 members of the youth brigade 'George Dimitrov' was inaugurated yesterday. The meeting was attended by President of the Supreme Economic Council, Dobri Carpenterhev. The Second Commander of the National Youth Brigade 'George Dimitrov', Marin Bandzhiev, reported on the participation of youth in the brigade movement. Bandzhiev said, inter alia: 'The brigade movement has established itself as a sole form for participation of the youth in the people's constructive work. It is also an excellent teacher for new youth devoted and faithful to the people. That is why the brigade movement should include the entire youth regardless of political convictions and past activities. The brigade movement is a true laboratory of youth unity. We are facing a task of recruiting 50,000 members for the 'George Dimitrov' brigade, whose formation is in full swing.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 3 MARCH 1947)

(Excerpt) "Estimates for youth brigade recruiting, including the brigade '50,000 National Youth Construction Brigade George Dimitrov', are surpassed. Already, according to reports...73,432 youths have joined the brigade until 5 days ago.... In order to divide correctly the labor of all youths, besides already existing battalions which work on the Veluek-Pernik railways line, the youth pass 'Khaim Pazar', Roditsa Dam, George Dimitrov Dam in Koprivka, and Kurilev-Plodiv electric line, it is intended to form further 3 battalions attached to one national brigade, whose targets will be Linkova-Mikhala construction, industrial center of the Roditsa coal basin in Dimitrovgrad, which is under construction, and the construction of forest roads in Rodzha Balkan." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 21 APRIL 1947)

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(Summary) The Sofia regional court yesterday pronounced verdict on the biggest confiscation case in Bulgaria against the wine-exporting firm Badashte. Properties and assets of the company and the shareholders were confiscated for the benefit of State, while the incriminated persons were ordered to pay court expenses of 237,700 leva. (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 1 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "After ratifying the law on credit payments and utilization of accounts, the Ministerial Council has approved the following decree regarding withdrawals from bank accounts for current needs:

"Article 1—According to the supplement of Article 2 of the law...every family can draw for its monthly needs amounts from accounts or debtor accounts, which together with other incomes of family should not exceed 40,000 leva. This only concerns families up to 4 members. For every further member the sum of 40,000 leva is increased by 5,000 leva.

"Article 2—For extraordinary needs, such as furnishing flats, marriages, building of houses, reparations, medical expenses, and other similar expenses, additional withdrawals are allowed.

"Article 3—For maintenance of every member of the family who has no income and is temporarily living away from his family's residence, as students, pupils, and so forth, a monthly withdrawal up to 10,000 leva is allowed if he is living within the borders of the Republic, while for those living abroad, the amount necessary for the purchase of foreign currency is granted by the Bulgarian National Bank.

"Article 4—Under this decree, every person on drawing sums from the bank should make a declaration in the withdrawal form that he has complied with the provisions of this decree...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 3 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "FATHERLAND FRONT...makes the following comment upon the debate on the State budget: (The budget) solves the question of new wage scales for civil servants, giving them a raise of from 8 to 20 percent. With the introduction of the law for a recurrent tax on property as the new system of taxation, the principle of social justice has been achieved...." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 3 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "The Council of Ministers yesterday examined the question of a general reduction of prices in order to adjust the prices of imported goods to the level of the basic agricultural products which represents a new, serious step in the recovery and consolidation of our national economy and an essential element of the Two-Year Economic Plan. The Council of Ministers decided to lower the prices of home-produced and imported industrial goods from 5 to 30 percent according to a list to be published. The time limit for effecting the reductions is 1 May this year." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 19 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "Secretary General of the Ministry of Trade has signed the first orders for the decrease of prices of important goods. A second order provides a reduction of 10 percent of the prices for coal used by the Bulgarian State railways and power stations. The price of electric energy is to be reduced by 10 percent.

"The Bulgarian State railways are ordered to reduce by 10 percent the present-day tariffs for the transport of goods and also to revise all tariffs for the transport of goods. All tariffs for automobiles, passengers, and goods transport are to be reduced by 20 percent. The tariffs of prices for transport of goods will be reduced by 20 percent. The wages to be paid to Black Sea and Danube harbor laborers will also be reduced by 20 percent." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 23 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "Sofia—The Cabinet has decided to organize foreign commerce on a new basis. Several commercial companies belonging to the State will be created. These will have a monopoly for foreign trade in cereals, attar of roses, minerals, metals,

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and chemical products. The activities of these companies will be controlled by the Minister of Commerce through a directorate for foreign trade. Several mixed companies will also be set up which will work with the State cooperatives and private persons for exporting fruit, vegetables, and fruit pulp, and also for exporting Bulgarian industrial and craft products, and for importing raw materials." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FOREIGN PRESS TO EUROPE, 9 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "Speaking in Plovdiv on economic problems, the Provisional President of the Popular Republic, Vasil Kolarov, said regarding private property and private initiative in the economic life of our country: 'Some people say that the Fatherland Front Government and the present economic plan nearly exclude private initiative and private economic life.... In a country like ours where the small-property class includes 80 percent of the population is it possible to disregard or private property and private initiative? ... The Fatherland Front... will never limit the opportunities of the small property owners, will never prevent private, economic initiative....'

"Private initiative remains the most important economic factor in our country.... If the Fatherland Front encroaches upon private capital it is only if capital is anti-State and antipopular, if it is parasite capital, if it is harmful and hinders the economic development of the country or pushes our country backward.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 22 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "A decree on the direction and supervision of industrial production has been approved by the Ministerial Council. The decree deals with production in all industrial plants including canning, cereals, spirits, timber and printing. Under this decree the Industry Ministry is to direct the activities of both private and public industrial enterprises in conformity with the State economic plan, to distribute new and auxiliary materials in accordance with the existing economic plans, to organize and control the execution of production of the plans, to rationalize industrial production, to organize the control of the capacity and production of industrial enterprises, to work for an increase of production of labor and for strengthening of labor discipline and industrial initiative; to supervise administration and working technique, and so forth.

"All private, public, and cooperative industrial enterprises are directed by the Industry Ministry, while State industrial enterprises will be organized on principles of self-support. Administrators of State industrial enterprises will be appointed by the Industry Ministry." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 23 APRIL 1947)

(Commentary by D. Bocharov, "The Working Class in Bulgaria")

(Excerpts) "Only 2½ years have passed since Bulgaria abolished its fascist regime and took the road of democratic development. In this brief period, the people's power proved capable of placing workers in conditions of which they could (not) even dream in the past. By the efforts of a democratic regime, unemployment has been entirely abolished in the country. Workers are now guaranteed the right to work. The authorities are vigilantly protecting their economic interests. Suffice it to point out that despite post-war difficulties the real wages of Bulgarian workers are now 70 percent higher than in 1937. The workers have a 47-hour working week. The working woman has acquired her rights. Whereas, under the old regime she was subjected to discrimination in that her labor was not considered to be of full value and was paid for less than the equal labor of men, the principle of equal pay for equal work has now been firmly established. ... The Bulgarian General Trade Union Confederation now unites 500,000 factory and office workers—10 times more than before Sept. 9, 1944.

"The State manifests great solicitude for cultural and medical services for the workers and spends considerable funds on social maintenance, on assisting the parents of large families, and so forth. For the first time a rise in wages has been instituted for the length of service for workmen and working women. They have received the right to holidays, to free medical aid, to old age pensions. Scores of thousands of men and women workers are spending their holidays annually in the country's best health resorts, which in the past were kept for (all) kinds of Ministers and Councillors.

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"The number of rest homes and sanatoria is growing year by year. The network of medical institutions is extending with extreme rapidity. It is sufficient to point out that in 1944 there was only one polyclinic in the country, whereas now there are 34. More than 300 maternity homes and many hospitals, dispensaries, and drug stores have been and are being built.

"In almost every enterprise, kindergartens and creches have been opened where working women, if they so desire, can leave their children for the whole day, and, in some cases, for 5 days. There, children are well-looked after and are under medical supervision. The Government manifests special care for mother and child. For the first time in Bulgaria, pregnant women receive leave with pay before and after confinement. Hundreds of millions of (leva) are spent for the upkeep of children's institutions. Clubs, libraries and, in some cases, also cinema institutions, have been established in enterprises."

"Since last year 23 senior and junior evening high schools and scores of all sorts of evening courses have been organized for the working youth. The Sofia Trades Council has organized the first labor University in the country. Courses with the object of wiping out illiteracy have been organized by the trade unions, and are attended by thousands of workers. The working youth has received wide access to Sofia, Plovdiv, and Varna Universities--the latter two were opened last year.

"More than 1,500 dining halls serving workers with meals at reduced prices have been opened in enterprises. Hundreds of millions of leva are spent on building and improving workers' dwellings. This is but a brief enumeration of what the democratic regime has done for the Bulgarian worker. The Two-Year National Economic Plan provides for further improvement in the conditions of the working class. The worker has become an active participant in the political, social, and cultural life of the country..." (IRKUTSK, SOVIET OVERSEAS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH FORCE TO JAPAN, 12 APRIL 1947, Vol. 2, 25.)

(Text) "The Council of Ministers yesterday examined the question of a general reduction of prices in order to adjust the prices of imported goods to the level of the basic agricultural products which represents a new, serious step in the recovery and consolidation of our national economy and an essential element of the Two-Year Economic Plan. The Council of Ministers decided to lower the prices of home-produced and imported industrial goods from 5 to 30 percent according to a list to be published. The time limit for effecting the reductions is May 1 this year." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 19 APRIL 1947) 3:30 p.m.)

(Text) "The Sofia regional Fatherland Front Committee held a plenary session under the chairmanship of President Tchervenko, and discussed the political and organizational activities of the Fatherland Front committees, party executives, and organizations concerning the execution of the Two-Year Economic Plan. After the election of the new board, the committee carried the following resolution:

"The District Fatherland Front committee must organize before 25 April commissions including representatives of all mass organizations of the District to organize and execute the Two-Year Plan. These commissions must coordinate the work of the different economic sectors and implement the plans assigned by regional economy-chamber and State authorities to districts, towns, quarters, and villages.

"The Fatherland Front committees must help the heads of enterprises, offices, and professional organizations in the elaboration of three-month plans. This should be done by arranging plan division for every department, group, and service. Village Fatherland Front committees, assisted by representatives of mass organizations, will help implementation of the plan in every village and distribute tasks to private and State-owned farms.

"The second basic task of Fatherland Front committees and organizations will be a large-scale campaign for explaining and propagating the plan and mobilizing the

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population for its execution. To implement these decisions, members of the Sofia regional committee will organize conferences in every district center and give full directives." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 19 APRIL 1947)

(Excerpt) "Sofia—President of the Supreme Economic Council Dobri Tarpeshev told press representatives that the beginning of the work of the economic plan was marked by an unparalleled uplift of all the Bulgarian people. Spring sowing, he said, made good progress, despite the difficulties caused by the shortage of seeds of certain crops. More than 400 teams of machine-planting stations, disposing of more than 2,000 tractors, are working in the fields this year. The realization of the Two Year Plan is led by the coal industry which accomplished the program of the first 4 months of this year ahead of time. A number of steps have been taken to accelerate the construction of new plants." (MOSCOW, TASS, SOVIET OVERSEAS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH HOME TO NORTH AMERICA, 1 MAY 1947)

(Text) "In order to help our agriculture combat the drought threatening some parts of our country, the Council of Ministers has decided on the mobilization of all water (hydraulic) pumps, irrigation equipment, gas engines, electric motors, and so forth, and has issued a decree according to which all owners of irrigation equipment, and so forth must send to the district agricultural authorities a list containing all particulars not later than 5 days after the publication of the decree. Exempted from this obligation are only the fire departments.

"District committees are to decide within 3 days after the lists have been received what irrigation equipment will be used, the rent to be paid for them, and the distribution of the water pumps, and so forth. As soon as the state emergency has gone the equipment will be returned to the owners in good order. Failure to comply with this requirement, the making of any false or incomplete statement will render the offender liable under the civil mobilization law." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 14 MAY 1947)

(Excerpt) "Toward the end of 1946 industrial output exceeded the pre-war level by 9 percent. All factories have been recommissioned and work efficiently. A number of new factories, including six synthetic rubber plants, mineral oils, glass factories, and so forth, have been built. Unemployment has been completely eliminated. An additional 13,500 workers will be needed by industry this year.

"Of late the country's financial condition has considerably improved. The currency reforms, carried out in March, reduced by more than 2 times the amount of currency in circulation, and thereby averted the menace of inflation. The internal trade turn-over has considerably increased. The establishment of trade relations with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, Switzerland, France, Rumania, and other countries has resulted in the consolidation of Bulgaria's foreign trade.

"The Government set itself the task of rendering Bulgaria an industrially and economically independent country. Of great importance in this respect is the law on the Two Year Economic Plan for 1947 and 1948 passed by the Great People's Assembly 2 months ago. The plan provides for a 36-percent increase in industrial output this year and 67 percent in 1948, as compared with 1939. The construction of 12 new heat and power stations, 16 hydropower stations, and 16 transformer substations is to begin this year to assure an adequate supply of power to industry. * The output of electrical power will grow by 35 percent during the 2 years. The mining of coal and mineral ores will also be considerably stepped up. The prospecting for coal, iron ore, copper, tin, zinc, and oil will be conducted on large areas.

"Important changes are planned in agriculture. Already this year agricultural production is to exceed the pre-war level by 13 percent and in 1948 by 34 percent. Harvests of grain and industrial crops, vegetables, and fruits will be increased. Poor and landless peasants will receive much land out of the national land fund. Numerous machine-tractor stations will be set up throughout the country. This will permit the setting up of big cooperative farms, which will exist along with

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individual farms, and the speeding up of the development of stock raising. There are now 20 machine-tractor stations and some 500 rural cooperatives which cultivate 200,000 hectares of fields. These cooperatives are being set up on a voluntary principle while the private ownership of farms is preserved." (MOSCOW, TASS, SOVIET OVERSEAS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH FORCE TO NORTH AMERICA, 23 MAY 1947)

(Summary) This broadcast reported that foundations of the greatest electrification project of the country and part of the Two-Year Economic Plan, the thermo-electric power station Hadeshdak, were laid this morning. Stefanov, among the speakers at the occasion, said the project had been possible thanks to the Bulgarian people's efforts and the Soviet Union's help. (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 22 JUNE 1947)

(Excerpt) "The National Committee of the Fatherland Front has addressed the following circular to all Fatherland Front pioneers and committees: 'Comrades, the main task lying ahead of the whole Bulgarian people is the estimation and collection of surplus grain stocks.... This campaign, as well as the way in which it is now carried out, are new to the Bulgarian peasant.... Explanatory work is necessary in this respect.... All cultural, artistic and theatrical workers' groups, and so forth, wherever they may be at this moment, should organize and reorganize the work for crop collection.... Regional and district committees should form mobile artist propaganda groups which will have to be most rationally used....'

"Because of the great stir caused by the food-collecting campaign amidst large masses of the people, the explanatory and entertainment campaign is to continue after the conclusion of the cereals collection until further notice. Comrades, successful carrying out of the food-collecting campaign will secure bread for our people and fulfillment of the Two-Year Economic Plan...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 22 JULY 1947)

(Commentary on the Bulgarian Two-Year Plan, from FRONT BULGARIA)

(Excerpt) "The first thing which Bulgarian economy under the plan is expected to do is to put into operation all available machines throughout the country! For lack of spare parts, a great number of machines are not at present in use... while others can only make use of part of their production capacity. The plan provides that committees composed of specialists will be sent abroad for the purchase of spare parts. Moreover, all factories which manufacture spare parts shall be reorganized and rationalized....

The plan provides that the smaller workshops can be grouped together into bigger modern enterprises where each small unit will be able to turn out machines and spare parts in a given time. It also provides for the transfer of machinery and specialists from one enterprise to another.... Under the plan, raw materials will be served to modern and rational enterprises. Workers engaged in obsolete factories will be transferred to more up-to-date enterprises.

"In order to overcome the electricity shortage, all power-producing installations... will be unified for the whole country. Furthermore, a series of industrial enterprises will start working night shifts, making use of a great amount of power which now flows off unused. Forest industries will be reorganized and many... will be taken nearer to their sources of supply.... Homes will be worked out for the use of raw materials. The canning industry and some others will be reshuffled with a view to adjusting them to a production of goods for which there is a wider demand on the national market.

"All these enterprises will be made self-supporting and autonomous.... Labor discipline will be introduced. The trade unions and the Fatherland Front committees will closely watch all production (records)... to stabilize the system of staff work and competitions....

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"Under the plan, 17 new industrial enterprises will be built for the manufacture of new means of production: chemical plants, metal and machine-producing factories, and large works for the provision of essential materials. Twenty-six new plants are to produce consumer goods... silks, textiles, foodstuffs, and so forth. In 1947, 12 service power plants with a total capacity of 190,000 kilowatts will be started, including two with a capacity of 12,000 kilowatts each. The plan envisages the construction of another 16 power stations with a total capacity of 63,200 kilowatts and 16 transformer substations with a total capacity of 175,000 kilowatts.

"In 1948 the power construction work will be continued. A total area of 600,000 decares... will be drained. The connection of 16 river beds of a total length of 400 kilometers will be continued, as the result of which 600,000 decares will be protected against floods. Connection of still another 125 kilometers of river beds will be started to protect another 50,000 decares from floods. The construction of 13 waterfront stations for the irrigation of 82,000 decares of land will be completed and another 160,000 decares of land drained.

"The plans of new coal mines are now being studied. 1,250 kilometers of new railroad lines will be built, 700 kilometers of new highways, and 450 kilometers of forest roads.... Bulgaria is rich in coal, iron, copper, zinc, lead, silver, and there are even indications of the presence of naphtha. It is estimated that by the end of 1949 Bulgaria will become self-sufficient for electric power.... Power production is expected to show an increase of 10 percent in 1947 and 50 percent in 1948. Coal production is expected to show a 40 percent increase in 1948—a goal which has to be reached if we are to achieve greater industrial production and adequate transport....

"As regards transport, the plan envisages a 34 percent increase in railway traffic, an 89 percent increase in freight transport, and a 130 percent increase in water transport. Twenty new State automobile lines... will be organized. 2,800 trucks have been put into circulation. One big steamship was recently bought and has started a regular service. Three more will be purchased. Air transport will be developed for the export of (foodstuffs).... Several important export enterprises have already been set up; some purely State-owned, others mixed enterprises. It is expected that competition between State and cooperative enterprises... and private companies... will result in a decrease of prices....

"It is estimated that 103,000 new workers will be needed to fulfill the Two-Year Plan....

"The financial means for the realization of the plan will be supplied from the State budget, from cooperatives, and private organizations and enterprises. (For this purpose) the Grand National Assembly passed the recent monetary reform laws and the laws for the single cooperatives. These laws, while they do not seriously affect the bulk of the population, will achieve considerable increase in the available means...." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 1 JULY 1947)

(Text) "Peasants from throughout the country, aware of the importance of the cereal campaign, are delivering quantities of cereals fixed by the Government decree. In Stara Zagora the campaign for collection of the crop is intensifying daily and surpluses are sent to granaries of the Food Supply Directorate. Latest reports from Stara Zagora are that the following quantities of cereals have been sent to the Food Supply Directorate: Nova Zagora district has given 573,780 kilograms of wheat, 66,371 kilograms of barley, 6,162 kilograms of oats, 15,224 kilograms of spelt.

"The following quantities of cereals have been collected as a toll for grinding on threshing machines: 182,653 kilograms of wheat, (182,653) kilograms of barley, 3,041 kilograms of oats, 22,264 kilograms of spelt. Stara Zagora district has sent to the Food Supply Directorate the following quantities of cereals: 323,357 kilograms of wheat, and as toll for grinding on threshing machines, 155,952 kilograms of wheat and 30,425 kilograms of barley." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 23 JULY 1947)

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C. ECONOMIC FEDERATION WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES(1) With Yugoslavia:

(Text of Bulgarian-Yugoslav Agreement signed at Bled, 1 August 1947)

"First, after acknowledging the necessity to conclude a treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance, and after having agreed...provisions of this treaty, to prepare the text of this treaty.

"Second, to develop to the utmost trade and economic cooperation between the two countries, to fix exchange rate with a view to establishing a common customs tariff and to coordinate further economic plans. To establish close cooperation in the fields of industry, electrification, mining, agriculture, transport and foreign trade.

"Third, to establish by special agreement a new regime for...estates all along the Bulgaro-Yugoslav frontier. This agreement will replace that of 1939. To facilitate passport formalities and remove entry and exit visas. To settle all matters connected with nationality.

"Fourth, to extend railway and road communications by appointing a special joint commission which is to determine the points to be linked and routes to be followed in the execution of the plan.

"Fifth, to establish close contacts and...activity between the two Governments regarding the attitude towards frequent frontier provocations of the Greek Monarcho-Fascist towards the Security Council Frontier Commission and its activities hitherto, and towards all important international problems which affect their mutual interests, and especially as regards the Danube regime which the two Governments believe is a matter over which the Danubian countries have an exclusive right.

"Sixth, to develop to the utmost cultural relations between the two countries. For this purpose concrete measures should be taken such as constant exchange of literature, periodicals and newspapers.

"Seventh, to announce in a special declaration the brotherly gesture of the Yugoslav Government, carried out in keeping with the friendly spirit between the two countries...during the struggle against the common enemy, which is made in order to facilitate the economic rehabilitation between the two countries and whereby Yugoslavia remits Bulgarian debt of 25 million dollars due to it according to the Peace Treaty with Bulgaria."

"The protocol has four addenda: 'First, the text of the treaty of friendship cooperation, and mutual assistance between the two countries.

"Second, agreement for economic cooperation.

"Third, agreement for establishment of customs facilities and common tariffs.

"Fourth, agreement for...of estates along the Bulgaro-Yugoslav frontier, facilitating crossing from one country to the other as well as the agreement on matters of nationality.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 2 AUGUST 1947)

(Excerpts) "Belgrade--Today's BORBA publishes a front-page article headed 'Cooperation Between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria--A New Contribution to the Strengthening of Peace' written by Vice President of the Yugoslav National Assembly Josa Pijade. 'The representatives of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria have concluded at Bled an agreement on friendship, mutual assistance and cooperation. Not one of the many important questions in the field of politics and economy and mutual relations placed in the agenda remained unsettled, but all were to the contrary solved to the fullest interest of both sides. ... In the situation which internal western reaction wishes to strain to the utmost by threatening with the bogey of war, this agreement is all the more significant. ...' (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 2 AUGUST 1947)

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all the more significant. It is a now palpable proof showing on which side lie the real aspirations and work for the rapprochement of peoples and the strengthening of world peace.

"In the agreement, no blocs similar to that which reaction is trying to form in the west were created. In this respect both great leaders, Marshal Tito and Georgi Dimitrov, in their toasts made unequivocal and resolute statements which cannot be falsified." (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 4 AUGUST 1947)

(Text) "Sofia--The Bulgarian Telegraph Agency has issued the following communique: 'In connection with the spread of tendentious reports abroad on an alleged statement by the Bulgarian Premier Georgi Dimitrov on the unification of three parts of Macedonia within the Yugoslav frontiers, the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency is authorized once more most categorically to declare that Premier Dimitrov never made such a statement to anyone.'" (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 9 AUGUST 1947)

(Excerpt) "The organ of the Social Democrat Party LIBERATEA published an article apropos of the visit of George Dimitrov to Belgrade: ... 'In the past, dictatorial regimes, and activities of those who opposed cooperation between the two friendly neighbor Nations prevented through continuous provocations the achievement of understanding and friendship which was so indispensable to Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. The Macedonian question which was stirred up by the reactionary rebellious movement was an "application of discord." Today Macedonia is an independent federative Republic within the borders of the Yugoslav people's State. Besides, Bulgarian chauvinistic forces were excluded from the social life of Bulgaria. The road towards understanding is open. The enthusiastic reception given to the leader of the Bulgarian Government by the people of the Yugoslav Capital on the occasion of his arrival in Belgrade is another proof of the new spirit in the Balkans.'" (BUCHAREST, IN BULGARIAN TO EUROPE, 31 JULY 1947)

(Excerpt) "A SEMINALUL article by Editor Sebastian Sherbesku entitled "Apprehension of the Balkans" says inter alia: "The insoluble Macedonian question has today found its solution between Belgrade and Sofia. There is not even the slightest shadow of rivalry. George Dimitrov was received in Yugoslavia as an emissary of brotherhood and unity, and neither Bulgaria nor Rumania has any reason left to quarrel...the visit of the Rumanian delegation in Sofia put the relations between both Nations on a basis of sincere cooperation. The article regrets, however, that the Greeks fail to follow the same line of understanding and maintain an atmosphere of disturbances in the southern Balkans. But in Greece also, reason will eventually prevail and will calm the spirits through clear understanding of the interests of our peoples."

"The article concludes: 'We must follow these changes closely. We are connected with the Balkans by our geographical position, by age-old neighborhood, by common character, by common interests. Although some might not like this, this must be our guide. We shall have to play a great role in the Balkans if we know how to perform our part.'" (BUCHAREST, IN BULGARIAN TO EUROPE, 5 AUGUST 1947)

(Text) "Sofia--The Bulgarian Telegraph Service is authorized to deny in the most categorical manner the Associated Press item from Belgrade...referring to the alleged journey of Premier Georgi Dimitrov to Belgrade in connection with the imaginary creation of a Balkan Federation. The AP report is completely false and obviously tendentious." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH MORSE, 5 JULY 1947)

(Text) "Belgrade--Marshal Tito today received the Bulgarian military delegation headed by Assistant Minister of the Army, Lt. Gen. Ferdinand Kozovski." (BELGRADE, TANYUG, YUGOSLAV PRESS SERVICE, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO EUROPE AND THE BALKANS, 9 JULY 1947)

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(2) With Rumania:

(Summary) On the occasion of the signing of the cultural pact between Bulgaria and Rumania, Provisional President Kolarov stated, inter alia: "...the two countries jointly undertake to fight fascist and chauvinistic ideology and propaganda in the political and scientific world. A mixed commission of 15 members will be in charge of enforcing the agreement (providing for scientific, cultural, and sport exchanges, as well as educational projects--Ed.)." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH MORSE TO EUROPE, 26 MAY 1947)

(Summary) Premier Groza, in an interview for OTECHSTVEN FRONT, stated, inter alia: "We will have to work hard in order to demolish these Chinese walls...by intensifying economic and cultural cooperation. We will be so near each other politically that we will have identical interests.... The quick reconstruction of Bulgaria will contribute to the establishment of democracy in all countries in this part of Europe.... Progress in Bulgaria means progress in Rumania.... Our Moscow, Belgrade, and Budapest visits are the first breaches in the wall which separated us.... We came not empty-handed, we came to Bulgaria with plans and ideas because...we desire that both peoples know each other and become closely united...." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 13 JULY 1947)

(Excerpt from a discussion of the "Marshall Plan") "The Rumanian Government delegation, composed of the chief Ministers and led by the head of the Government, left for Sofia. The invitation was made by the head of the Bulgarian Government, M. Dimitrov, and the visit to Bulgaria has for its aim the conduct of negotiations with regard to the mutual relations of these two countries and the possible conclusion in the future of several agreements--commercial customs, and so forth. In the past few days, the significance of the visit was widely commented on in the Capital...that (it) is at the very moment when, upon mutual agreement, both these countries refused the invitation to the Paris Conference...." (MOSCOW, SOVIET HOME SERVICE, 15 JULY 1947)

(Excerpt from a speech by Dimitrov at a dinner in honor of the Rumanian delegation) "In this new favorable atmosphere the long contemplated question of the construction of a bridge over the Danube can find a positive solution in the near future. As Danubian States we shall act together with Rumania, Yugoslavia, and the other Danubian States so as not to allow foreign non-Danubian powers to be masters of the Danube and the Danubian basin.... As is known, foreign aggressors have lost no opportunity of dividing us in order to rule over the Balkans; they frequently spread rumors that a certain Slav bloc against the west was being created. The visit of the non-Slav Rumanian delegation in Bulgaria is a proof that there is no question of a Slav bloc against the western States...." (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 15 JULY 1947)

(3) With Albania:

(Text) "Today, July 10, the Albanian Army holiday, a Bulgaro-Albanian committee was formed in Sofia. The committee will work for mutual acquaintance, rapprochement, and assistance between the two Balkan peoples by strengthening their cultural and economic relations. The committee was constituted thus: "President, Dimitr Poljanov, writer; Vice President of People's Republic, Atanas Dragnev; Vice President of People's Republic, Traycho Dobroslavsky; Secretary General of Information and Arts, Ministry Gen. Dinitser Popov, ... Trayana Nenova, Lamar and Bontcho Nesterov." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 10 JULY 1947)

(4) With Hungary:

According to press reports from Sofia (4 June) and Budapest, 25 June, negotiations for a trade agreement between Hungary and Bulgaria were conducted in Moscow. Conclusion of the agreement was announced by RADIO SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 23 JUNE 1947: "Bulgaria and Hungary have signed a trade agreement by which Bulgaria will send Hungary leather, raw hide, iron ore, and other materials in exchange for...spare machine parts, industrial, and agricultural equipment."

(5) With Czechoslovakia:X
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(5) With Czechoslovakia:

On 22 April, a trade agreement was signed between Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. The terms, according to SOFIA RADIO, 1st APRIL 1947 are as follows: "Negotiations ended with the conclusion of a four year agreement for the exchange of goods.... We shall import electric power plants, transformers, electric apparatus, installations, and equipment, construction material and implements, metal and wood finishing machinery, light automobiles, buses, trucks, trolleys, mining installations, jetties, small locomotives, rope, and so forth. A yearly supply of refrigerator plants is also foreseen. Czechoslovakia will provide 30 to 100 buses yearly; 200 trucks in 1947 and 300 each following year,...compressors,...and other spares,...complete supplies for the construction of three dams...installations for Permian coal mines during 1950, pumps for agricultural purposes, and so forth. The financing of our industry until its complete reestablishment is taken over by the Czechoslovak National Bank...."

"Our exports will mainly consist of agricultural products like tobacco, oil seeds, hides, ~~sesame~~ oil, beech trees, certain quantity of elm logs, small quantity of lead concentrate, ether, mentholate, raw silk, bristle and small quantity of wheat."

On 23 APRIL, RADIO SOFIA adds ores to the list of Bulgarian exports, and states, quoting the Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister, Dr. Hubert Ripka: "A special agreement for the establishment of a network of railway communications between Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia will probably be signed in the near future...."

(6) With Poland:

RADIO SOFIA reported 6 JULY 1947 that a group of Bulgarian journalists who recently visited "brotherly Slav Poland" questioned Polish Foreign Trade Minister Szyr, who stated: "Bulgaria is asking from us mainly locomotives, rails, chemicals, and some other goods. Our industry produces all these goods and we can spare some of it to brotherly Bulgaria, although not in large quantities...."

On 17 JULY, RADIO SOFIA stated: "The Polish air delegation which arrived in our country yesterday to negotiate the conclusion of an air agreement between Bulgaria and Poland today had a first meeting with the Bulgarian Air Transport Directorate...."

Again, on 21 JULY, RADIO SOFIA reported: "Yesterday, the preliminary talks between the Polish economic delegation headed by Szyr, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, and a Bulgarian Government delegation were started.... Mr. Szyr made the following statement....: 'We came to Bulgaria to conclude a trade agreement under which Poland is to supply Bulgaria metals, iron, textile products, chemicals, electrical materials, in exchange for which Poland will receive tobacco and leather....'"

(7) With Finland:

(Text) "Helsinki--According to UUSI SUOMI, discussions on an exchange of goods between Finland and Bulgaria have started in Helsinki. The discussions are carried out by a Finnish delegation headed by Sepaelae, trade councillor, and a Bulgarian delegation headed by Petrovsky, Director of Foreign Trade." (MOSCOW, TASS, IN RUSSIAN HELLSCHREIBER TO EUROPE, 11 JULY 1947)

(Text) "Helsinki--The newspaper SUOMEN SOCIALIDEMOKRATII reports that on 12 July a trade treaty for the term of one year was signed by Finland and Bulgaria. According to this treaty, the total volume of trade turn-over between both countries has been established at 135 million Finnish marks. Bulgaria will export to Finland tobacco, dried fruits, and certain other commodities. Finland will supply Bulgaria with paper, timber, and articles of the wood-working industry." (MOSCOW, TASS, IN ENGLISH MORSE TO NORTH AMERICA, 14 JULY 1947)

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D. REPORTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

(Text) "The Soviet ships Chernigov and Zharev are unloading the following cargo at Varna: 1,479,480 kilograms of cotton, 7 lorries, 14 tractors. The Bulgarian ship Parvi May, coming from Alexandria, is unloading 5,950 kilograms of lemons and oranges. The Soviet ship...arrived in Burgas and is unloading 437 tons of cellulose, 600 tons of newsprint, 477 tons of cast iron, 116 tons of wool, 109 tons of different kinds of metal, and 390 tons of other goods. At the same port the Soviet ship Stalingrad is loading 700 tons of fruit pulp and 1,097 tons of tobacco." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 6 MARCH 1947)

(Text) "The medical supplies which arrived by air from the Soviet Union were allocated to the Ministry of National Health and Ministry of Agriculture for their own needs." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 19 MARCH 1947)

(Summary) The annual report at the meeting of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Cooperative Society said that drugs worth 120 million leva were imported from abroad, mainly from the Soviet Union. (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 28 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "Sofia--Ill-intentioned persons are spreading rumors in our country and abroad alleging that cereals had been and are being sent to the Soviet Union. A categorical denial has been issued by official circles.... In actual fact, during the past 2 years of drought, Bulgaria has received large quantities of cereals from the Soviet Union. Thanks to this timely help, Bulgaria has been able to insure sufficient food supplies to the population and save its cattle from dying." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH WIRE TO EUROPE, 7 JULY 1947)

(Text) "A Bulgarian commercial delegation headed by Commerce Minister Yordan Bozhilov and Foreign Trade Director Petrovsky left by plane this morning for Moscow. The Bulgarian delegation will negotiate there the conclusion of a commercial agreement for 1947 between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 14 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "The President of the Council, Georgi Dimitrov, made a long speech at the congress of Bulgarian Railwaymen and Seamen and laid special emphasis on the need for carrying out the Two Year Plan. He said: 'As you know, we cannot count upon large-scale help from abroad. U.N.R.R.A. does not exist for Bulgaria as for other countries. We can and must rely first and foremost on our own strength, our work and our resources. We received none help in a period critical for Bulgarian economy from the USSR, but such assistance cannot be on a large scale in the future, because the USSR requires the maximum development of its industry and creative power. The Bulgarians and other Slav peoples are vitally interested therein. When Moscow becomes more powerful, the Bulgarians and all the Slav peoples will feel better and a lasting peace will be more easily and securely established among the Nations.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH WIRE TO EUROPE, 27 JUNE 1947)

E. MINORITY AND RELIGIOUS POLICIES

(Text) "Sofia--Ranev, Deputy of the Constituent Assembly, having been appointed Bulgarian Minister Plenipotentiary to Bucharest, his mandate is thus taken over by Ashakiv Rachev, Communist. Rachev is the first Gypsy member of the Bulgarian Parliament. On this occasion, the Gypsy minority sent telegrams to the President and Premier expressing their satisfaction at enjoying full civil rights and reaffirming their unshakable loyalty to the Fatherland Front. (SOFIA, BULGARIAN PRESS SERVICE, IN FRENCH WIRE TO THE BALKANS AND EUROPE 21 MAY 1947)

(Text) "Cults Director, Plenipotentiary Minister Dimitar Iliev, received the central committee of the cultural educational organization of the Gypsy minority in Bulgaria, composed of...Ramadan, (Koston) Angel, Flagov,...led by Peoples' Representative.... The central committee, on behalf of (260,000) Gypsies exposed...demands concerning...and cultural educational...of the Gypsy population. It

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expressed the Gypsy minority's desire to be recognized as a juridical person and Gypsy popular...schools and others be opened. The delegation expressed the entire Gypsy population's deep gratitude for the Dimitrov Government's care for all minorities, including the Gypsy. Iliev assured the delegation he will do his utmost to satisfy their just demands." (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 4 JULY 1947)

(Text) "Director of Cults at the Foreign Ministry, Minister Plenipotentiary Dimitar Iliev, received Presbyter Prof. Stefan Tsankov with whom he exchanged views on further cooperation between State and Church in the name of social justice and national unity of action. Presbyter Tsankov expressed conviction that in the interest of the great common cause of our social and economic life, the Congress of Priests Union which will open tomorrow will support unanimously cooperation between State and Church, and will thus contribute to the strengthening of the common work of the Church, people, and State. (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 3 JUNE 1947)

F. SOVIET TROOPS AND THE BULGARIAN ARMY

(Text) "As announced by a German press agency in the Soviet-occupied zone the Soviet Army is leaving Bulgaria." (PRAGUE, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 6 JUNE 1947)

(Text) "Premier Dimitrov has sent the following letter to the young men who on 16 April will enter the barracks for the national service: 'I most heartily congratulate the young men who on 16 April will enter the barracks as the first republican recruits of our beloved People's Army. I wish that that through intensive work and stern discipline they will study their military duties and through physical and moral training will become worthy and capable defenders of our Motherland--the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The day in which the Motherland will place rifles in their hands in order to defend her honor, freedom, and independence must become the brightest day in their lives. In entering the barracks they must never forget that the defense of the Fatherland is the highest duty of every citizen, as stated in the Constitution of our People's Republic.'" (SOFIA, BULGARIAN HOME SERVICE, 5 APRIL 1947)

(Text) "Addressing the personnel of the new air service, the Prime Minister outlined the great tasks which face Bulgarian air transport and said that an important part would be reserved for it in the Two-Year Plan. The development of aviation, the Prime Minister said, would allow us to increase the tempo of our country's reconstruction, the development of our economy, of our culture, and the progress of our people. The Prime Minister further pointed out that the development of our civil aviation did not depend merely on material conditions, but above all on human material--on the flyers, the technical personnel, and the directors of our aviation--and for this reason great care and attention should be devoted to the building up of a good staff. 'I appeal to our flyers, technicians, engineers, and all who work in our air service, to make every effort for professional perfection. Within a few years Bulgaria must have several thousand pilots, technicians, and engineers in our air service.'" (SOFIA, IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE, 1 JULY 1947)

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